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**Idaho Grain Producers Association**

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Public Record

December 1, 2011

Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**RE: Evan Hayes Nomination, Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council  
(Docket No. EP 526, Sub-No.3)**

Surface Transportation Board Members:

On behalf of the Idaho Grain Producers Association (IGPA), it is my honor and pleasure to nominate and strongly endorse Evan Hayes for appointment to the Surface Transportation Board Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC).

The IGPA represents nearly 700 wheat and barley farms and approximately \$700 million in annual farm-gate economic activity in the State of Idaho. The IGPA serves as the sole advocate for Idaho's wheat and barley farmers and holds representation on numerous regional, state, and national industry organizations.

Evan Hayes is a proven leader, educator and communicator having served our organization in leadership positions among many others both regionally and nationally. Innovation, vision, and passion are critical and necessary characteristics when serving in an advisory capacity - Evan embodies each of these.

Evan's unique knowledge of rail shipper issues include over thirty years of operating a farm in a region highly dependent on bulk rail shipments of agriculture commodities. Evan has served three Idaho Governors on advisory committees charged with generating solutions to Idaho's trucking and rail challenges. He also served in a specific role as an executive committee member of the Alliance for Rail Competition (ARC) representing rail shippers and industry associations concerned with rail service issues.

The importance of transportation to his livelihood - combined with a deep understanding of the interconnectivity between the agriculture industry and the railroads - make Evan Hayes a unique and wise selection for the RSTAC.

It is my pleasure and that of the IGPA to highly recommend Evan Hayes for appointment to the RSTAC.

Best regards,

Joseph R. Anderson  
President